

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please substitute the following amended claims for the pending claims with the same numbers in the above-identified application. (A version of the amended claims with markings to show the changes made is also attached.)

A1 1. (Amended) A bone resorption inhibitor comprising leukocyte activating protein factor or leukocyte activating protein factor-derived substances, in an amount effective for bone resorption inhibitory activity.

A2 3. (Amended) The bone resorption inhibitor according to claim 1, wherein the leukocyte activating protein factor or leukocyte activating protein factor-derived substances inhibits against osteoclast cell activity.

4. (Amended) The bone resorption inhibitor according to claim 1, wherein said substances have an inhibitory activity of more than 80% at a concentration of 10 µg/ml using percent inhibition of pit formation.

5. (Amended) A screening method for bone resorption inhibitor derived substances containing leukocyte activating protein factor or leukocyte activating protein factor-derived substances, which are purified from the source of these substances, or which are prepared or synthesized by based on the information of these substances, comprising determining bone resorption inhibitory activity using percent inhibition of pit formation.

6. (Amended) A method to produce bone resorption inhibitors comprising introducing leukocyte activating protein factor or leukocyte activating protein factor-derived substances in the production of bone resorption inhibitors.

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7. (Amended) A method for bone resorption inhibiting in an animal comprising administering to said animal, bone resorption inhibitor derived substances containing leukocyte activating protein factor or leukocyte activating protein factor-derived substances.

Please add the following new claims:

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8. The bone resorption inhibitor according to claim 2, wherein the leukocyte activating protein factor or leukocyte activating protein factor-derived substances inhibits against osteoclast cell activity.

9. The bone resorption inhibitor according to claim 2, wherein said substances have an inhibitory activity of more than 80% at a concentration of 10 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ using percent inhibition of pit formation.

10. The bone resorption inhibitor according to claim 3, wherein said substances have an inhibitory activity of more than 80% at a concentration of 10 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ using percent inhibition of pit formation.--